

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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29 January 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major General George J. Keegan, Jr., USAF  
Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Air Force

DDI-278-77

SUBJECT : Reply to 11 January 1974 Memorandum

1. I have read with interest your memorandum of 11 January proposing that we issue a Memorandum to Holders of NIE 11/12-73: SOVIET AND EAST EUROPEAN ATTITUDES TOWARD MBFR. I certainly share your concern that the most up-to-date intelligence support has to be provided the policy levels of this government and its representatives as the latter negotiate to reduce the level of armed forces deployed in Europe. At this writing, however, it seems to us that a new Memorandum to Holders would probably be redundant.

2. There is now an interdepartmental mechanism for providing intelligence support to policy levels of the U.S. Government and to the U.S. negotiators in Vienna. This is the Verification Panel Working Group of the National Security Council. In addition, the inter-Agency Coordinating Committee, which from Washington supplies policy guidance to the negotiators in Vienna, is provided an intelligence input by an inter-agency support group in Washington. I would also note that the negotiators have just returned to Vienna armed with new instructions set forth in NSDM 241.

3. In light of the above, I believe that a Memorandum to Holders on some of the subjects already being addressed in detail by those inter-agency groups is not necessary at this time. It might be appropriate to issue a new estimate on the subject after the end of the current negotiating session in Vienna. Per your request, however, I am placing this matter on the USIB agenda, so we can discuss this matter of timing.

W. E. Colby

O/D/DCI/NIO: [ ] GACarver:swr (28 January 1974)

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